

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-12 (cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) A surfactant/solvent system for liquid formulation comprising

- α) one or more nonaromatic-based surfactants
- β) as a solvent, one or more triester(s) of phosphoric acid with alcohols, ~~said triester(s) being insoluble in water or soluble in water up to a concentration of not more than 10 g/l~~, wherein tri(butoxyethyl)phosphate is excluded.

14. (Previously Added) The surfactant/solvent as claimed in claim 13 wherein the triester(s) are insoluble in water or are soluble in water up to a concentration of not more than 10 g/l.

15. (Previously Added) The surfactant/solvent system as claimed in claim 13, wherein the alcohols are selected from the group consisting of

- 1) monohydric alkanols having 5 to 22 carbon atoms,
- 2) diols or polyols,
- 3) aryl, alkylaryl, poly(alkyl)aryl and poly(arylalkyl)aryl alcohols,
- 4) alkoxylated alcohols obtained by reacting the alcohols mentioned above under 1), 2) or 3) with alkylene oxides, and
- 5) alkoxylated alcohols obtained by reacting monohydric alkanols having 1 to 4 carbon atoms and alkylene oxides.

16. (Previously Added) The surfactant/solvent system as claimed in claim 13, as component β), one or more compounds from the group of

- alkoxylated short-chain alcohols having 1-22 carbon atoms in the

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alkyl radical and 1 to 30 alkyleneoxy units in the polyalkyleneoxy moiety which have been reacted completely with ortho-phosphoric acid,

- alkyl alcohols having 5 -22 carbon atoms which have been reacted completely with ortho-phosphoric acid,
- optionally alkoxyated alcohols having 1-22 carbon atoms in the alkyl radical and phenol derivatives, which have been partially reacted with ortho-phosphoric acid, in each case with a 0 to 30 alkyleneoxy units in the polyalkyleneoxy moiety, the remaining OH valencies of the orthophosphoric acid subsequently having been alkoxyated, and esters of n-octylphosphonic acid which has formally been reacted twice with alcohols.

17. (Previously Added) A liquid active substance formulation which comprises

- a) one or more active substances which are insoluble in water or soluble up to a concentration of 10 g/l,
- b) the surfactant/solvent system as claimed in claim 13,
- c) if appropriate further organic solvents,
- d) if appropriate further adjuvants and additives such as further surfactants and/or polymers, and
- e) if appropriate water.

18. (Previously Added) A liquid active substance formulation as claimed in claim 17, which comprises

- a) 1 to 50% by weight of agrochemical active substances,
- b) 5 to 80% by weight of the surfactant/solvent system according to

claim 13,

- c) 0 to 40% by weight of further organic solvents,
- d) 0 to 20% by weight of customary adjuvants and additives other than (f),
- e) 0 to 96% by weight of water and
- f) 0 to 30% by weight of further surfactants.

19. (Previously Added) A liquid active substance formulation as claimed in claim 17 in the form of an emulsifiable concentrate.

20. (Previously Added) An emulsifiable concentrate as claimed in claim 19 which comprises

- a) 10 to 40% by weight of agrochemical active substances,
- b) 10 to 60% by weight of the surfactant/solvent system according to claim 13,
- c) 5 to 35% by weight of further organic solvents,
- d) 0 to 10% by weight of customary adjuvants and additives other than (e), and
- e) 10 to 25% by weight of further surfactants.

21. (Previously Added) A liquid active substance formulation as claimed in claim 17, which comprises one or more active substances from the group of the herbicides desmedipham, phenmedipham and ethofumesate.

22. (Previously Added) A process for the preparation of an active substance formulation as defined in claim 17, wherein the components are mixed with each other.

23. (Previously Added) A liquid active substance formulation which comprises one or more active substances and the surfactant/solvent system according to claim 13.

24. (Previously Added) An emulsifiable concentrate which comprises at least one agrochemical active substance and the surfactant/solvent system according to claim 13.

REMARKS

This invention provides for surfactant/solvent systems for formulations of active substances such as agrochemical active substances. Applicants discovered that one could prepare a liquid formulation that is stable over a wide range of amount of active substance, e.g., between 20 and 40 percent by weight. This result is achieved by the development of a surfactant/solvent system which comprises one or more nonaromatic-based surfactants and a solvent that comprises at least one triester of phosphoric acid, which may be insoluble in water or soluble in water up to a concentration of not more than about 10 g/l.

It is believed that no fee is required. If, however, an additional fee is due, the Assistant Commissioner is authorized to charge such fee, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

This Amendment corrects an obvious typographical error in claim 13. By this amendment, claim 14 now properly depends from claim 13.

Favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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